

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

Dominic Marrocco,

Case No.: 2:18-cv-02441-JAD-GWF

Plaintiff

V.

Order

David Johnston; Equinet, Inc.; Does and Roe Companies I-X

[ECF Nos. 9, 10]

Defendants

9 Dominic Marrocco sues pro se defendant David Johnston and his company Equinet, Inc.
10 for slander and intentional infliction of emotional distress, alleging that Johnston used social
11 media to publish false claims that Marrocco committed crimes.¹ Johnston has vigorously
12 responded with an answer and counterclaims,² an emergency motion to stay an unrelated state-
13 court eviction action,³ and a motion to dismiss.⁴

14 In his emergency motion to stay, Johnston asks this court to enjoin an unrelated
15 summary-eviction process pending against him in the state justice court.⁵ The Anti-Injunction
16 Act generally bars federal courts from granting injunctions to stay proceedings in state courts.⁶
17 The Act provides that “A court of the United States may not grant an injunction to stay
18 proceedings in a State court except as expressly authorized by Act of Congress, or where

¹ ECF No. 1.

2 ECF No. 6.

3 ECF No. 9.

4 ECF No. 10.

23 | ⁵ ECF No. 9.

⁶ *Chick Kam Choo v. Exxon Corp.*, 486 U.S. 140, 142 (1988).

1 necessary in aid of its jurisdiction, or to protect or effectuate its judgments.”⁷ Johnston has not
2 suggested—let alone demonstrated—how this court’s order enjoining a state-court eviction
3 proceeding is not prohibited by the Anti-Injunction Act. So I deny his emergency motion to stay
4 that eviction proceeding.

5 Johnston also moves to dismiss Marrocco’s claims in a seven-line motion in which he
6 offers conclusory statements that Marrocco failed to state a claim, filed his claims for unlawful
7 purpose or with knowledge that they are false or retaliatory. This district’s local rules require
8 that all motions “be supported by a memorandum of points and authorities,”⁸ and Johnston’s
9 motion to dismiss lacks such support. I could deny this motion on this basis alone.

10 But even if I overlook this procedural deficiency, Johnston’s motion fails because he has
11 not demonstrated a basis to dismiss Marrocco’s claims. Johnston offers only conclusory
12 statements about the sufficiency of Marrocco’s claims without citing to, or addressing any
13 specific allegation or claim in, the complaint. This effort is simply insufficient to permit the
14 court to determine what the claimed defects in these claims are. Accordingly, Johnston’s motion
15 to dismiss is denied.

16 IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

17 • Johnston’s Emergency Motion to Stay [ECF No. 9] is DENIED; and
18 • Johnston’s Motion to Dismiss [ECF No. 10] is DENIED.

19 Dated: January 28, 2019

20 
U.S. District Judge Jennifer A. Dorsey

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22
23⁷ 28 U.S.C. § 2283.

⁸ L.R. 7-2(a).